

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the application, prior to the present Amendment.

Claims 5-10, 12 and 13 have been allowed.

Applicants have added a new claim 22 that depends from claim 11.

Claims 1-4, 11, 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner sets forth two reasons for this rejection. Applicants discuss these reasons below.

First, the Examiner states that claim 1 is indefinite because it is not clear as to whether the magnesium is required to be present in the boron nitride crystals, or whether it could be distributed in intergranular regions, for example.

In response, applicants have amended claim 1 as set forth above to state that the magnesium is contained in the cubic boron nitride crystal. Support for this amendment can be found in the present specification at page 17, lines 24 and 25, which state that the magnesium is "contained in the cBN crystal." Applicants submit that the above amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 1 as indefinite.

Second, the Examiner states that claim 11 is indefinite as to whether "hydrocarbon organic compound" would simply be a hydrocarbon, or whether it could be an organic compound other than a hydrocarbon. In response, applicants have amended claim 11 to delete the term "organic compound." Applicants submit that the above amendment overcomes the rejection of claim 11 as indefinite.

In view of the above, applicants submit that claims 1-4, 11, 14 and 15 comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and, accordingly request withdrawal of this rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

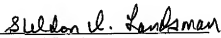
The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 13, 2009


Sheldon I. Landsman
Registration No. 25,430